

MAR 22 2004 1:23PM

DINSMORE SHOHL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER NO. 9906 P. 2

MAR 22 2004

Docket No.: 25974-1

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted via facsimile to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Group Art Unit 1761; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at facsimile number 703-872-9306 on March 22, 2004.

Brandy Rogre

PATENT

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Harith A. Razaa

Serial No.: 10/040,327

Group Art Unit: 1761

Filed: November 7, 2001

Examiner: Arthur L. Corbin

For: Vacuum Tumbled Food Products and Methods

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

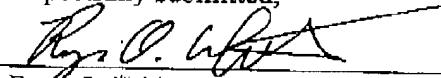
Dear Sir:

In the Official Action dated February 25, 2004, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. §121 between claims 1-24 drawn to processes for preparing a food product and claims 25-31 drawn to food products.

Applicant hereby elects claims 1-24 drawn to processes for preparing a food product. This election is made with traverse on the basis that, as claims 25-31 are drawn to food products classified in class 426, it would not be unduly burdensome for the Examiner to examine claims 25-31 with claims 1-24 drawn to processes which are also classified in class 426. Accordingly, reconsideration of the restriction requirement and examination of claims 1-24 is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the above represents a complete response to the restriction requirement.
Accordingly, examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan O. White, Reg. No. 45,541
Attorney for Applicant
DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP
1900 Chemed Center
255 East Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 977-8686

996386